IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Docket: BOUMAN1 Conf. No.: Antonius Johannes Maria BOUMAN Art Unit:

IA Filed: December 5, 2003 Examiner:

In re Application of:

IA No: PCT/NL03/000865

Washington, D.C. Appln. No.: Not yet assigned

June 16, 2005 For: SPRAY-DRYING DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [IDS]

Honorable Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window Randolph Building, Mail Stop Amendment 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 CFR §\$1.97, 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the aboveidentified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or crossreferencing it as a related application.

- [X] 1. This IDS should be considered, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97, as it is filed:
- [X] A. within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application or within three months of the entry into the national stage of the above-identified international application.
- [] B. before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits or before the mailing of a first Office

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action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR §1.114.

- [X] 2. In accordance with 37 CFR \$1.98, this IDS includes a list (e.g., form BN/SB/08A/B) of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the office, either incorporated into this IDS or as an attachment hereto. Other than U.S. patent(s) and/or published U.S. application(s), which 37 CFR \$1.98(a)(2)(ii) does not require to be filed unless specifically required by the Office, a copy of each document listed is attached, except as explained below:
- [] A. Document(s) ______ is/are deemed substantially cumulative to document(s) ______, and, in accordance with 37 CFR \$1.98(c), a copy of each of the former document(s) is not enclosed.
- [] B. Certain documents were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the following prior application(s), which are relied upon under 35 U.S.C. 120:

(insert serial numbers and filing dates of prior applications) Applicant identifies these documents by attaching hereto copies of the forms PTO-892, PTO-1449, PTO/SB/08a and/or PTO/SB/08b (or their BN form equivalents) from the files of the prior application(s) or a fresh BN/SB/08A and/or BN/SB/08B listing these documents, and request that they be considered and made of record in accordance with 37 CFR \$1.98(d). Per 37 CFR \$1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be filed in this application.

- [X] 3. Documents \underline{AB} and \underline{AC} are not in the English language. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), Applicant states:
 - [] An English translation of document _____ (or of the pertinent portions thereof), or a copy of an English-language abstract (or claim) is enclosed.

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the accompanying Form BN/SB/08A, with a line drawn in the margin connecting the non-English-language document with its corresponding English-language document.

- [X] A concise explanation of the relevance of documents <u>AB and AC</u> is found in the attached <u>INTERNATIONAL</u> search report (see reply to Comment 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).
- [] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) _____ is set forth as follows:
- [] A concise explanation of the relevance of document _____ can be found on page ____ of the specification.
- [] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) ____ can be found on the attached sheet.
- []4. No explanation of relevance is necessary for documents in the English language (see reply to Comments 67 and 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).
- [] 5. Other information being provided for the examiner's consideration follows:
- 6. In accordance with 37 CFR §\$1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR \$1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the

face of the item and Applicant reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known		
				Application Number	Int Gassmer 019%	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				Filing Date	June 16, 2005	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			PLICANT	First Named Inventor	Antonius Johannes Maria BOUMAN	
				Group Art Unit		
			ecessary)	Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	BOUMAN1	

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner nitials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{z (III} known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		US-				
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		FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
- [Foreign Patent Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY		Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵	
	Examiner Initials*		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)					
		AA	CA 2374220	12/21/2000	MERCK PATENT GMBH			
		AB	DE 19927537	12/21/2000	MERCK PATENT GMBH			
		AC	DE 368877	2/12/1923	CHEMISCHE VERWERTUNGSGESELLS CH			
		ΑD	GB 221598	09/18/1924	GUSTAVE ZIA NAFILYAN			
		AE	WO 01/33971 A1	11/09/1999	NIRO A/S			

	OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner (Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country published					
Examiner Signature		Date Considered				

^{*} EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ¹For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁴ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English :nguage Translation is attached.